



# ALABAMA BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN PSYCHOLOGY

---

Annual Newsletter

May, 2015

---

## BOARD MEMBERS

Joseph D. Ackerson, Ph.D., Chair, Psychologist Member  
Mary Ann Bowers, Ph.D., Vice-Chair, Psychologist Member  
La' Shonda A. Moore Kille, DPM, Public Member  
Martin L. Rohling, Ph.D., Psychologist Member  
Carol P. Walker, Ph.D., ABPP, Psychologist Member  
Kristin R. Tubré, Psy.D., Psychologist Member  
Catalina M. Arata, Ph.D., Psychologist Member  
Kristi Ann Miller, M.S., Psychological Technician Member

## OFFICE STAFF

Mrs. Lori H. Rall, Executive Director  
Mrs. Joya Burge, Administrative Assistant

## CONTACT INFORMATION

660 Adams Avenue, Suite 360  
Montgomery, AL 36104  
334-242-4127 334-242-4411~fax  
Website: [psychology.alabama.gov](http://psychology.alabama.gov)  
Email: [albdpsychology@psychology.alabama.gov](mailto:albdpsychology@psychology.alabama.gov)

**Please visit our website for a link to the Alabama Licensing Law  
and the Board's Administrative Code**

### **MEMBERS LEAVE THE BOARD**

Pamela R. Snider, Ph.D. left the Board upon the expiration of two five-year terms. Dr. Snider served as Vice-Chair during Fiscal Years 2007 and 2012 and as Chair for Fiscal Years 2008 and 2013. Joseph Alan Taylor, M.S. left the Board upon the expiration of a three-year term and a full five-year term. Mr. Taylor served as Vice-Chair for Fiscal Year 2013 and as Chair during Fiscal Year 2014. During their time with the Board, Dr. Snider's and Mr. Taylor's dedicated service to the Board's responsibility of carrying out its mandate on behalf of the consumer and citizens at large was unflinching, and their presence on the Board will be missed! *We extend thanks for lending your expertise and offering your hard work, and we wish you both all the best in your future endeavors. Please do not be strangers!*

### **NEW MEMBERS APPOINTED TO THE BOARD by Governor Robert Bentley**

La'Shonda A. Moore Kille, DPM was appointed again to serve a five-year term. Kristin R. Tubré, Psy.D., Catalina M. Arata, Ph.D., and Kristi Ann Miller, M.S. have been appointed for five-year terms.

### **CHAIR'S ADDRESS** **from Joseph D. Ackerson, Ph.D.**

*To start my first ABEP Newsletter as Chair of the Board, I want to thank the professionals who have given their time and talents to serve on the Board. Prior Chairs, Dr. Pam Snider and Mr. Joe Taylor, have proved great exemplars of leadership and dedication, as well as professional congeniality. Current members, Drs. Mary Bowers, Marty Rohling, Carol Walker, and La'Shonda Moore, along with Board Attorney Matt Beam, Executive Director Lori Rall, and Administrative Assistant Joya Burge are very valuable team members who consistently go above and beyond the call of duty with their dedication to serving the public and ensuring due process to both applicants and licensed psychologists and psychological technicians. I also welcome our newest members, Drs. Kristin Tubre and Catalina Arata, and Ms. Kristi Miller, with profound gratitude and enthusiasm; I know the current Board members do similarly. I assure you that your Board members, staff, and attorney work very hard to fulfill their duties.*

*As a brain injury specialist, I am sure that for many of my patients I am the last person they want to see*

*professionally. I understand that: who in the world wants to have to deal with a concussion or more serious brain injury? But if you have one, you want to make sure you are receiving professional care from someone committed to their craft and will treat you with sensitivity and respect.*

*In a similar vein, no psychologist or psychological technician wants to have to deal with the Board due to an ethics or consumer complaint filed against them. Yet the reality is that we are seeing a trend of increased complaints. The Board investigated 13 complaints during 2011 and 2012 combined; in 2013, there were 12 investigations; in 2014, there were 14 investigations; and there have been 9 investigations opened in just the first quarter of this year. While many of the complaints that the Board investigated fortunately resulted in a finding of no probable cause, extensive hours and resources were nonetheless expended on the part of Board members assigned to investigation committees, the Board staff, and the Board attorney to arrive at those conclusions. We strive to ensure that each case is managed in a professional and sensitive manner. When there is a finding of no probable cause for Board action, we share the relief of the defending licensee. When there is probable cause for Board action, we are hopeful that we can provide education and corrective action through consent decrees. When such option is not possible, we will pursue the case as far as we have to in order to achieve justice - including the State Supreme Court - and to uphold our primary duty to protect the public.*

*The ABEP has also had the opportunity to use case complaints as a means to leverage other agencies for positive change. For example, after following through on a consumer complaint filed against a non-psychologist presenting themselves as such, we discovered that there are instances of agencies employing non-psychologists to provide psychological services by granting practice privileges and contracts to those individuals. This situation allowed the Board an opportunity to educate the agency in question, and ultimately other state agencies, about the importance of employing only licensed psychologists to provide psychological services to the vulnerable public. The functions of a regulatory Board are not easily replicated and cannot be replaced.*

*We have 58 new licensees this year, which is generally consistent with the past 4 years I have served on the Board (range 52-69). Approximately half of all licensees live outside of Alabama. These "non-natives", if you will, are usually active military personnel, or work for the VA or other Federal agencies. Given our commitment to those who serve our country, the Board is happy to be able to ensure that our active duty and veteran military personnel*

**CHAIR'S ADDRESS, CONTINUED...**

are receiving quality psychological services provided by duly licensed individuals. The total number of psychologists and psychological technicians licensed in the State of Alabama is over 1,100 and paperwork must be processed for each and every one of them each year.

In addition to reviewing complaints and applications for licenses, the Board has spent many hours upgrading our ability to serve via our new website ([psychology.alabama.gov](http://psychology.alabama.gov)), reviewing and, if necessary, updating language in the licensing law and administrative code, and working as closely as allowed with your primary professional organization, the Alabama Psychological Association (aPA). We have developed stronger relationships with Alabama legislators and, along with aPA, have provided commentary regarding proposed Bills that may impact the practice and regulation of psychology in Alabama. We continue to strengthen our relationship with the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) in order to keep you apprised of national trends such as the telepsychology, growth of applied behavioral analysis, and the current APA review of record keeping guidelines.

A few changes this year have led to a long overdue increase in fees to reflect the increased costs of running the Board. Updates to the Board's licensing law that became effective in 2014 demanded new and extra resources. A part of this will be the mandate to perform background checks on all applicants - a change I am sure we all support, but one that is not provided without expending additional resources. Updates to technology demand resources. Another change has been the expansion of the Board to include one additional member. While this is not a change we sought, the end result is positive in that we have increased representation of professional psychology on the board and extra hands to help manage the increased workflow.

Finally, let me thank all of you for your support through the past 4 years and the year to come. The closer working relationship between aPA and ABEP has been very positive for me personally and I look forward to continued collaboration, when necessary and as appropriate. I hope to continue the tradition of a professional, sensitive, respectful, and efficient ABEP.

Sincerely,



Chair

**NEW LICENSES ISSUED**

*July 2014 to present*

**Psychologists**

Helene E. Cook, Ph.D., #1900, Columbia, SC  
 Joeleen Cooper Bhatia, Ph.D., #1901, Auburn, AL  
 Amileah R. Davis, Ph.D., #1902, Tucson, AZ  
 Jeffrey S. Martin, Ph.D., #1903, Del Rio, TX  
 Anne W. McIntyre, Ph.D., #1904, Birmingham, AL  
 Lindsey R. Moore, Ph.D., #1905, Vestavia Hills, AL  
 Jerry V. Walker, III, Ph.D., #1906, Hampton, VA  
 Allison A. Clark, Ph.D., #1908, Hubert, NC  
 Kim E. Dixon, Ph.D., #1909, Tuscaloosa, AL  
 Wendy N. Gray, Ph.D., #1910, Newnan, GA  
 Tammy D. Lander, Ph.D., #1911, Quincy, FL  
 Michael M. Steele, Ph.D. #1913, Draper, UT  
 Heather B. Britnell, Ph.D., #1914, Birmingham, AL  
 Lesley A. Friedhoff, Ph.D., #1915, Navarre, FL  
 Gina M. Masessa, Psy.D., #1916, Springfield, MO  
 Jan-Erin Miller, Ph.D., #1917, Auburn, AL  
 Peter H. Thomasson, Psy.D., #1918, Springfield, MO  
 Courtney T. Tibbetts, Psy.D., #1919, Lafayette, LA  
 Megan E. Crisler, Ph.D., #1920, Harvest, AL  
 Bill R. Ferguson, Ph.D. #1921, Auburn, AL  
 Adam T. Gerstenecker, Ph.D., #1922, Vestavia, AL  
 Mary A. Plant, Ph.D., #1923, Hoover, AL  
 Jan E. Newman, Ph.D., #1924, Auburn, AL  
 Adam D. Dell, Psy.D., #1925, D'lberview, MS  
 Erin N. Stevens, Ph.D., #1926, Auburn, AL  
 Karyn C. Swinson, Ph.D., #1927, Montgomery, AL  
 Cristal E. Weeks, Ph.D., #1928, Mobile, AL  
 Andrew J. Anderson, Psy.D., #1929, Oxford, AL  
 Debra R.F. Chen, Ph.D., #1930, Berlin, NH  
 Alyssa C. Ford, Ph.D., #1931, Pittsburgh, PA  
 William F. Kerst, Ph.D., #1932, Palmer, AK  
 David H. NeeSmith, Ph.D., #1933, Mobile, AL  
 Caroline T. Parrott, Ph.D., #1934, Tuscaloosa, AL  
 Andrea E. Rehmert, Ph.D., #1935, Tuscaloosa, AL  
 Sarah E. Ryan, Psy.D., #1936, Birmingham, AL  
 Lindsay R. Trent, Ph.D., #1937, Menio Park, CA  
 Levita Y. Bui, Ph.D., #1938, Birmingham, AL  
 Tanja Ketisch, Psy.D., #1939, Atlanta, GA  
 Andrew H. Presnell, Ph.D., #1940, Montgomery, AL  
 Rodney C. Teague, Ph.D., #1941, Notasulga, AL  
 Stephen J. Thomas, Ph.D., #1942, Vestavia Hills, AL  
 Gareth R. Dutton, Ph.D., #1943, Birmingham, AL  
 Dana Flynn Schneider, Psy.D., #1944, Birmingham, AL  
 Christina N. Radmer, Psy.D., #1945, Phenix City, AL  
 Christine M. W. Totura, Ph.D., #1946, Auburn, AL  
 Tresa L. Elliott, Ph.D., #1947, Madison, AL  
 Gerardo E. Gonzalez, Ph.D., #1949, San Antonio, TX  
 Krystelle Jean-Michel, Ph.D., #1950, Warrensburg, MO  
 Jennings B. Haynes, Psy.D., #1951, Montgomery, AL  
 KaSeania Riley-Bass, Psy.D., #1952, San Antonio, TX  
 Natalie I. Krenz, Psy.D., #1953, Spokane, WA

**NEW LICENSES ISSUED, CONTINUED...**

Amy M. Owen, Ph.D., #1954, Columbus, GA  
 Tabitha P. Price, Psy.D., #1955, Aurora, CO  
 Nicholas J. Schmidt, Ph.D., #1956, Jackson, MS  
 Michelle A. Keiski, Ph.D., #1957, Indianapolis, IN

**Psychological Technicians**

James O. Harris, M.S., #1907, Albertville, AL  
 Victoria S. Chanault, M.S., #1912, Daphne, AL  
 Jennings B. Haynes, M.A., #1948, Montgomery, AL

**LICENSES NOT RENEWED For Fiscal Year 2015**  
***Voluntary Non-Renewal***

**Psychologists**

Pamela M. Auble, Ph.D., #1310, Nashville, TN  
 Roger K. Blashfield, Ph.D., #866, Hood River, OR  
 Joan W. Burns, Ph.D., #302, Mountain Brook, AL  
 Patrick E. Callahan, Ph.D., #1594, Fayetteville, NC  
 Karla D. Critchfield, Ph.D., #682, Normal, IL  
 Jennifer C. Fulcher, Ph.D., #1709, Tampa, FL  
 Jennifer Gillis Mattson, Ph.D., #1468, Vestal, NY  
 Heidi Halla-Bauer, Psy.D., #1505, Owatonna, MN  
 Carl D. Hulsey, Ph.D., #1137, Birmingham, AL  
 Daniel L. Koch, Ph.D., #198, Mobile, AL  
 Lisa M. Kugler, Psy.D., #1531, North Huntingdon, PA  
 Melissa C. Kuhajda, Ph.D., #1084, Ooltewah, TN  
 Szu-Ning Lai, Psy.D., #1686, Savannah, GA  
 Patrick F. Lavin, Ph.D., #1106, Signal Mountain, TN  
 Lawrence R. Maier, Ph.D., #488, Huntsville, AL  
 Brandon A. Markel, Psy.D., #1845, Ridgeland, MS  
 Richard E. Mattson, Ph.D., #1476, Vestal, NY  
 Fances Ralston, Ph.D., #1102, Montgomery, AL  
 Rachel B. Sherrill, Ph.D., #1831, Bordentown, NJ  
 Mary S. Whetsell, Ph.D., #863, Lexington, KY  
 Larry F. Wood, Ph.D., #851, Munford, AL

**Psychological Technicians**

Katherine W. Byington, M.A., #1836, Birmingham, AL  
 Megan E. Crisler, M.A., #1870, Harvest, AL

**DECEASED LICENSEES**

Michael David Fetter, Ph.D., #1077, Birmingham, AL  
 Marian F. Hargrove, Ph.D., #1053, Montgomery, AL  
 David L. Patterson, Ph.D., #265, St. Simons Island, GA

**CURRENT NUMBER OF LICENSEES**

Psychologists: **1103**  
 Psychological Technicians: **33**

**COMPLAINTS**

The Board received fourteen (14) Complaints against licensees during Fiscal Year 2014. Nine (9) of those Complaints resulted in a decision of no probable cause for disciplinary action, two (2) resulted in probable cause for disciplinary action, and one (1) was withdrawn by the complainant. One (1) Complaint remains open as an on-going investigation. Thus far in Fiscal Year 2015, the Board has received nine (9) Complaints, four (4) of which resulted in a decision of no probable cause for disciplinary action. The remaining five (5) are classified as on-going investigations.

**DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS**

**Name:** Amber Elizabeth Douglas, Psy.D., #1749  
**Disciplinary Action(s):** Consent Order - Suspension; Supervised Practice; Continuing Education; and Costs  
**Date of Discipline:** July 11, 2014  
**Reason(s) for Discipline:** Violation of Alabama Code 34-26-46(a)(17), Administrative Code Rule 750-X-5-.03(1)(q) and 750-X-5-.03(2)(a), and Ethical Principles 3.05(a)(1) and (b) (Multiple Relationships); and Alabama Code 34-26-46(a)(19), Administrative Code Rule 750-X-5-.03(1)(r), and Ethical Principles 2.06(a) and (b) (Personal Problems and Conflicts).

**Name:** Kale E. Kirkland, Ph.D., # 1714  
**Disciplinary Action:** Consent Agreement - Suspension for a period of one (1) year beginning August 1, 2014 followed by a probationary period of at least four (4) years; Therapy ordered; and, Costs assessed.  
**Date of Discipline:** July 11, 2014

**Reason for Discipline:** Violation of Alabama Code 34-26-46(a)(8) and (17), Administrative Code Rule 750-X-5-.03(1)(h), and Ethical Principle 10.05 (Sexual Intimacies With Current Therapy Clients/Patients) and 10.08 (Sexual Intimacies With Former Therapy Clients/Patients); Alabama Code 34-26-46(a)(17), Administrative Code Rule 750-X-5-.03(2)(a) and 750-X-5-.03(2)(b)(i) and (ii), and Ethical Principles 3.05(a)(1), (2), and (b) (Multiple Relationships); Alabama Code 34-26-46(a)(13) and (17), Administrative Code Rule 750-X-5-.03(1)(m) and 750-X-5-.03(1)(q), and Ethical Principle 3.08 (Exploitative Relationships); Alabama Code 34-26-46(a)(17),

**DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS, CONTINUED...**

Administrative Code Rule 750-X-5-.03(1)(q), and Ethical Principle 3.04 (Avoiding Harm); Alabama Code 34-26-46(a)(17), Administrative Code Rule 750-X-5-.03(1)(q), and Ethical Principle 3.10(a) and (d) (Informed Consent); Alabama Code 34-26-46(a)(17), Administrative Code Rule 750-X-5-.03(1)(q), and Ethical Principle 10.10(c) (Termination of Therapy); and, Alabama Code 34-26-46(a)(17), Administrative Code Rule 750-X-5-.03(1)(q), and Ethical Principle 10.04 (Providing Therapy to Those Served by Others).

**Name:** James Stanley Walker, Ph.D.

**Disciplinary Action(s):** Suspension of Licensure reverting to Probation - Consent Order / Suspension retroactive to March 15, 2013 with stipulations, reverting to Probation retroactive to March 15, 2013, for a period of five (5) years, with stipulations, in concurrence with the Consent Order entered into with the Tennessee Board of Examiners in Psychology; and, Penalty levied.

**Date of Discipline:** March 13, 2015

**Reason(s) for Discipline:** Violation of Code of Alabama, 1975 Section 34-26-46(a)(3), (4), (14) and (19) and Administrative Code Rule 750-X-5-.03(a) ( c), (d), (n) and ( r) and Ethical Principle 2.06 Personal Problems and Conflicts.

**RULES & REGULATIONS CHANGES**  
**To the Board's Administrative Code**

**Filed Certification:** September 19, 2014

**Effective Date:** October 24, 2014

Appendix I Fee Schedule: This amendment was needed to assess a service charge in the event that a payor provides a dishonored instrument (a bad check) for payment of an agency fee.

**Filed Certification:** November 20, 2014

**Effective Date:** December 25, 2014

Appendix I Fee Schedule: This amendment was needed to communicate changes to application and license renewal fees and to provide an explanation of the late penalty fee(s) that may be assessed upon late license renewal.

750-X-1-.01 Membership: This amendment was needed to clarify the composition of the membership of the Board.

**CONTINUING EDUCATION**

*The Office Staff requests that you please report your Continuing Education hours as they are completed and accrued throughout the year.* The Individual Reporting Form that must accompany a licensee's certificate of completion and the Continuing Education rules and regulations can be found on Board's web site at [psychology.alabama.gov](http://psychology.alabama.gov).

**The C.E. requirement for psychologists is twenty (20) hours per year, unless specifically instructed otherwise by Board Order.**

**The requirement for psychological technicians is ten (10) hours per year, unless specifically instructed otherwise by Board Order.**

**ANNUAL LICENSE RENEWAL**

*Please be advised:* Failure to comply with ALL requirements for annual license renewal by October 15 shall result in a **lapsed license**. Failure to renew a license prior to October 15 will not deprive a licensee of the right to renew his or her license, **but it does prohibit the individual from continuing to practice** unless he or she is working in an exempt setting.

A person who fails to renew a lapsed license within a period of two years is not eligible for reinstatement (i.e. the license will not be restored or reissued by the Board). Instead, a new application for licensure must be submitted and the applicant will be required to meet the statutory requirements for licensure in existence at the time of re-application.

Please contact the Board office for information on reinstating a lapsed license.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The address you provide to the Board Office on the annual Renewal Notice will be the public address of record listed with the Alabama Board of Examiners in Psychology. This is the address that will be provided to the public upon request and where all official correspondence from the Board will be sent. If you wish to change your address of record, please notify the Board Office via mail or e-mail at: [albdpsychology@psychology.alabama.gov](mailto:albdpsychology@psychology.alabama.gov).

**FEE SCHEDULE**

Application Fee:	
Psychologists	\$ 350.00
Psychological Technicians	\$ 227.50
Examination Fee:	
PSE ( <i>State Jurisprudence Exam</i> )	\$ 50.00
License Renewal:	
Psychologists	\$ 175.00
Psychological Technicians	\$ 113.75
Late Penalty Fee, per month	\$ 20.00
( <i>Fee accrues each month or fraction thereof that renewal is late, up to two years</i> )	
Continuing Education Fee	\$ 50.00
Roster of Licensed Psychologists	\$ 12.00
Roster of Licensed Psychological Technicians	\$ 10.00
Replacement Licensure Certificate	\$ 15.00
Replacement Annual Renewal Card	\$ 5.00
Copy of Rules and Regulations	\$ 10.00
Returned Check Fee	
( <i>Dishonor of a negotiable instrument</i> )	\$ 30.00

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

The Board meets on the second Friday of January, March, May, July, September, and November each year. Meetings are generally held at the Board Office located in the Liberty Bank and Trust building (formerly, First Tuskegee Bank) located at 660 Adams Avenue, Suite 360, Montgomery, Alabama 36104. Notices of regularly-scheduled and emergency meetings, and notices of Public Hearings, are published in the Alabama Administrative Monthly and on the Alabama Secretary of State's website at <https://openmeetings.alabama.gov>.

**Board Meeting Dates**

- July 10, 2015
- September 11, 2015
- November 13, 2015
- January 8, 2016
- March 11, 2016
- May 13, 2016
- July 8, 2016
- September 9, 2016
- November 11, 2016